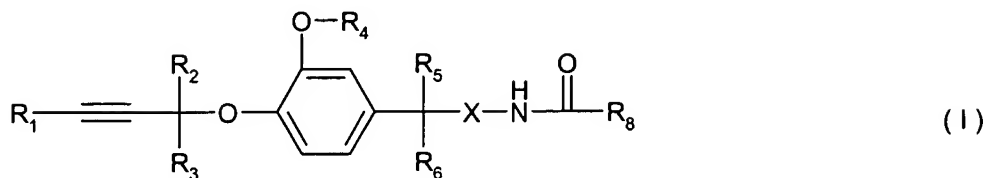


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Original): A compound of formula I



including the optical isomers thereof and mixtures of such isomers, wherein

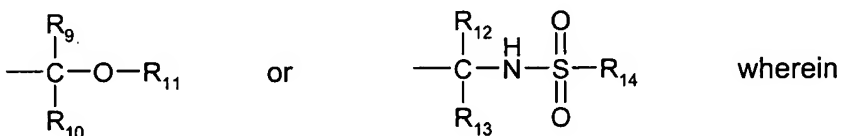
R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, phenyl or naphthyl; phenyl and naphthyl being optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano and nitro;

R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, and R<sub>7</sub> are each independently of each other hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl; or

X is O or N-R<sub>7</sub>; and

R<sub>8</sub> is a group



R<sub>9</sub> is phenyl, naphthyl, 1,3-biphenyl or 1,4-biphenyl, each optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano, nitro and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl; R<sub>10</sub> and R<sub>11</sub> are each independently hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl;

R<sub>12</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, phenyl or naphthyl; phenyl and naphthyl being optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, aryl, halogen, cyano and nitro R<sub>13</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl; and R<sub>14</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-dialkylamino.

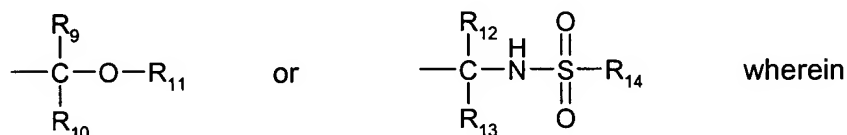
Claim 2. (Original): A compound according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>10</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, X is oxygen, R<sub>8</sub> is -C(R<sub>9</sub>R<sub>10</sub>)-OR<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>11</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl.

Claim 3. (Original): A compound according to claim 1 wherein X is oxygen, R<sub>8</sub> is -C(R<sub>12</sub>R<sub>13</sub>)NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-R<sub>14</sub>, and R<sub>12</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended): A compound of formula I according to ~~[any of claims 1 to 3]~~ claim 1, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, phenyl or naphthyl; phenyl and naphthyl being optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano and nitro;

R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl; or

R<sub>8</sub> is a group



R<sub>9</sub> is phenyl, naphthyl, 1,3-biphenyl or 1,4-biphenyl, each optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano, nitro and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl; R<sub>11</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl; and R<sub>14</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylamino or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-dialkylamino.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended): A compound of formula I according to ~~[any of claims 1 to 4]~~  
claim 1, wherein

R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl; and R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are hydrogen; and R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl; and R<sub>9</sub> is phenyl, naphthyl, 1,3-biphenyl or 1,4-biphenyl, each optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano, nitro and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl; and R<sub>10</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; and R<sub>11</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl; and R<sub>12</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl; phenyl or benzyl wherein the phenyl and benzyl is optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano, nitro and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl; and R<sub>13</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; and R<sub>14</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-monoalkylamino or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-dialkylamino.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended): A compound of formula I according to ~~[any of claims 1 to 5]~~  
claim 1, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, and R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are hydrogen; and R<sub>4</sub> is methyl or ethyl; and R<sub>9</sub> is phenyl or naphthyl each optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkylthio, halogen, cyano, nitro and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl; and R<sub>10</sub> and R<sub>13</sub> are each hydrogen; and R<sub>11</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkynyl; and R<sub>12</sub> is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-cycloalkyl; and R<sub>14</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-dialkylamino.

Claim 7. (Original): A compound of formula I according to claim 1 selected from the group comprising

2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-acetamide,  
N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetamide,  
2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-acetamide,  
N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetamide,  
2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,  
2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetamide,

2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,  
 2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-  
 acetamide,  
 2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,  
 2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-  
 acetamide,  
 2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,  
 2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-  
 acetamide,  
 2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,  
 2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-  
 acetamide,  
 2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,  
 2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-  
 acetamide,  
 (S)-2-methylsulfonylamino-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-  
 butyramide,  
 (S)-2-methylsulfonylamino-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-  
 butyramide,  
 (S)-N-{4-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyloxy}-2-  
 methylsulfonylamino-3-methyl-butyramide,  
 (S)-2-ethylsulfonylamino-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-butyramide,  
 (S)-N-{4-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyloxy}-2-N,N'-dimethylamino-  
 sulfonylamino-3-methyl-butyramide,  
 2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,  
 2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,  
 (S)-2-ethylsulfonylamino-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-butyramide,  
 (S)-N-{4-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyloxy}-2-  
 ethanesulfonylamino-3-methyl-butyramide,  
 hydroxy-phenyl-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,  
 phenyl-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,  
 hydroxy-phenyl-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,

phenyl-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,  
 (4-chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,  
 (4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-  
 hydrazide,  
 (4-chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,  
 (4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-  
 hydrazide,  
 (4-bromo-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,  
 (4-bromo-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-  
 hydrazide,  
 (4-bromo-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,  
 (4-bromo-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-  
 hydrazide,  
 (3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-  
 hydrazide,  
 (3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-  
 hydrazide,  
 (3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-  
 hydrazide,  
 (3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-  
 hydrazide,  
 N-((S)-1-[N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazinocarbonyl]-2-methyl-propyl)-  
 methylsulfonamide,  
 N-((S)-1-[N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazinocarbonyl]-2-methyl-propyl)-  
 methylsulfonamide,  
 N-[(S)-1-(N'-{4-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyl}-hydrazinocarbonyl)-  
 2-methyl-propyl]-methylsulfonamide,  
 N-((S)-1-[N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazinocarbonyl]-2-methyl-propyl)-  
 ethylsulfonamide,

N-((S)-1-[N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazinocarbonyl]-2-methyl-propyl)-ethylsulfonamide, and

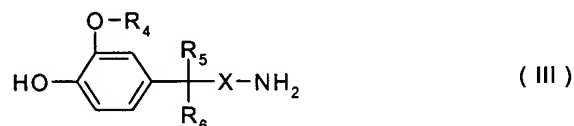
N-[(S)-1-(N'-{4-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyl}-hydrazinocarbonyl)-2-methyl-propyl]-ethylsulfonamide.

Claim 8. (Original): A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I according to claim 1, which comprises

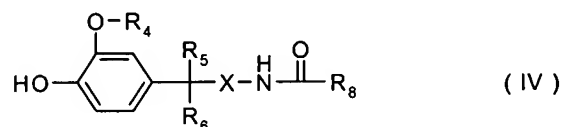
a) reacting an acid of formula II or a carboxy-activated derivative of an acid of formula II



wherein R<sub>8</sub> is as defined for formula I with an amine of formula III



wherein R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> and X are as defined for formula I and reacting the intermediate phenol of formula IV

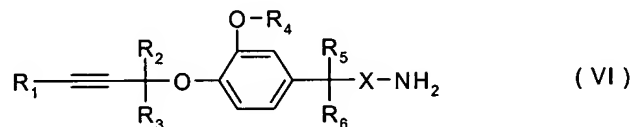


wherein R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and X are as defined for formula I with a compound of formula V



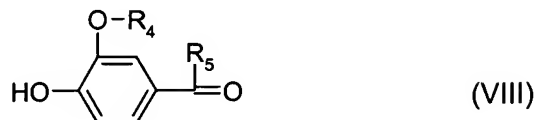
wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are as defined for formula I and wherein Y is a leaving group; or

b) reacting a compound of formula VI



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> and X are as defined for formula I with an acid of formula II or a carboxy-activated derivative of an acid of formula II; or

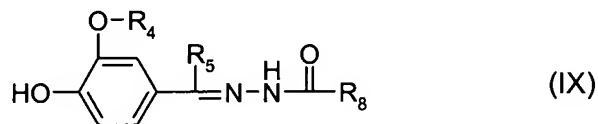
c) reacting a compound of formula VIII



wherein R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined for formula I with an acid hydrazide of formula VII

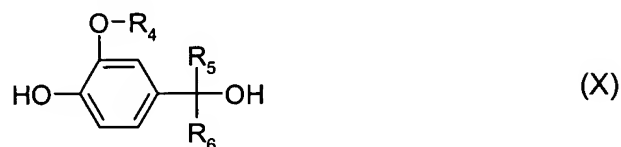


wherein R<sub>8</sub> is as defined for formula I, and hydrating the intermediate acylhydrazone of formula IX

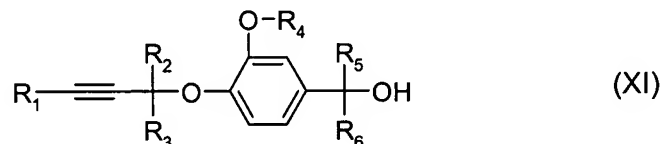


yielding in a compound of formula IVa, wherein R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> are as defined for formula I;  
or

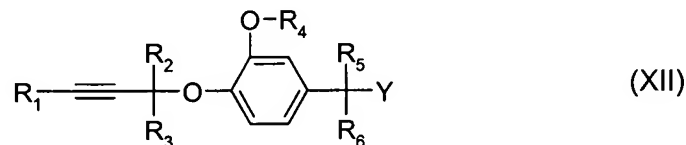
d) reacting a phenol of formula X



wherein R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are as defined for formula I, with a compound of formula V as defined above, and transforming the intermediate alcohol of formula XI



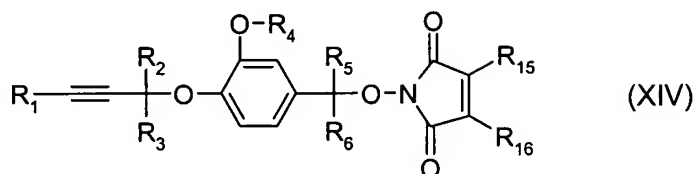
wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are as defined for formula I, into a compound of formula XII,



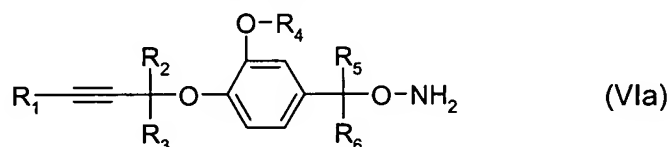
wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are as defined for formula I and wherein Y is a leaving group like a halide such as a chloride or bromide or a sulfonic ester such as a tosylate, mesylate or triflate, and reacting the compound of formula XII with a compound of formula XIII



wherein R<sub>15</sub> and R<sub>16</sub> are hydrogen, halogen, methyl or part of an annelated benzene ring to yield an N-alkoxyimide of formula XIV



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are as defined for formula I and R<sub>15</sub> and R<sub>16</sub> are as defined for formula XIII, and reacting the n-alkoxyimide of formula XIV with an amine derivative, like methylamine or butylamine or a hydrazine derivative, such as hydrazine, hydrazine hydrate or methylhydrazine to yield a compound of formula VIa



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are as defined for formula I.

Claim 9. (Original): A composition for controlling and protecting against phytopathogenic microorganisms, comprising a compound of formula I according to claim 1 as active ingredient together with a suitable carrier.

Claim 10. (Cancelled).

Claim 11. (Currently Amended): A method of controlling and preventing an infestation of crop plants by phytopathogenic microorganisms, which comprises the application of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 ~~for of a composition according to claim 9~~ as active ingredient to the plant, to parts of plants or to the locus thereof.



Claim 12. (Original): A method according to claim 11, wherein the phytopathogenic microorganisms are fungal organisms.

Claim 13. (New): A method of controlling and preventing an infestation of crop plants by phytopathogenic microorganisms, which comprises the application of a composition according to claim 9 to plant, to parts of plants or to the locus thereof.

Claim 14. (New): A method according to claim 13, wherein the phytopathogenic microorganisms are fungal organisms.